

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~VC/NVA LOGISTIC REQUIREMENTS1. Introduction

This is a study of the basic load of weapons, ammunition, and certain communications equipment for NVA and VC units. Information available for this study included: Captured enemy documents, VC captive reports, VC returnee reports, and reports produced by other agencies.

Methodology

The documents and reports mentioned in paragraph one were screened for any information concerning basic load of weapon, ammunition, communications equipment and unit strengths. This information was tabulated on each type unit that has been identified (see tables 2, 3 and 4). From this tabulation it was determined how many rounds of ammunition are issued as a basic load for each type weapon. After the number of weapons was determined along with the number of rounds with each weapon these totals were multiplied by the weight of each type round to determine the total weight of ammunition. Table 1 is a tabulation of the various type weapons giving basic load per weapon and the weight of each type round. The only other type equipment that was considered in this study was signal equipment and these weights, derived from FM 101-10, "Staff Officer's Field Manual Organization, Technical, and Logistic Data", are also included in table 1. Tables 2, 3 and 4 are tabulations of squad, platoon and company size units that were extracted from the documents and reports. The source of each of these extractions is included in these tables and constitutes the bibliography for this study.

Once the weights of ammunition per weapon was determined this was applied to "Type" NVA units up to and including divisions to determine logistical requirements. Figures 1 thru 5 show the NVA Infantry Co., Combat Support Company, Infantry Battalion, Regiment and Division along with their basic load of Class V supplies.

Examination of all available data clearly shows that the strength of those VC main force infantry battalions that are armed with the new 7.62 family of weapons (estimated to be some 30% of all main force infantry units) are about 70-80% the strength of an NVA infantry battalion. The

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Army review(s) completed.

remaining VC main and local force infantry battalions are 60-70% the strength of NVA units and are armed with older weapons of various origin thus complicating the logistical problems. VC combat support units were found to be generally comparable in strength to NVA combat support units.

### 3. Conclusions

Analysis of available data indicates that:

a. The NVA Infantry Bn Strengths in SVN average about 647 men when at full strength.

b. The Basic Load of Class V supplies plus radios, telephones and field wire for an NVA Infantry Bn in SVN is 3.41 tons.

c. VC main force infantry units armed with the new family of 7.62mm weapons (30% or 15 bns) average about 485 men in strength (75% strength of NVA units in SVN).

d. The Basic Load of Class V supplies plus radios, telephones and field wire of these VC main forces Infantry Bns is about 2.56 tons.

e. The remaining VC main forces and VC local forces infantry bns are armed with a mixture of weapons and their basic load averages about 2.22 tons (65% strength of NVA units in SVN).

f. There appears to be a goal to build all units to full strength and a trend to standardizing weapons.

g. The strength, equipment, and basic load of Class V supplies for all VC and NVA Combat Support and Combat Service Support units appears comparable.

h. Fire discipline is rigidly enforced throughout the VC and NVA units and ammunition expenditure is rigidly controlled through comprehensive accounting procedures.

i. The capture of weapons and ammunition and the retrieval of their own weapons and ammunition from the battlefield is of major concern to the combat forces.

j. A detailed breakout of Class V supplies plus signal gear of VC/NVA units in SVN follows:

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<u>Units</u>	<u>Short Tons</u>
1 NVA Inf Bn	208.01
1 Main Forces Bns (7.62 family equipped)	38.40
36 VC Main Forces Bns } Equipped with a	
35 VC Local Forces Bns } mix. of weapons	157.62
13 Arty Bns (6 NVA, 7 VC)	53.86
4 Engineer Bns (2 NVA, 2 VC)	2.52
1 Signal Bn (NVA)	2.10
1 Transportation Bn (NVA)	.25
1 Medical Bn (NVA)	.10
101 Separate Inf Platoons (VC)	8.74
173 Separate Inf Companies (VC)	68.54
Support Companies subordinate to the 32 Infantry Regiments (19 NVA, 13 VC)	171.84
6 Division Headquarters (4 NVA, 2 VC)	.6
Total Basic Load	712.58

Assuming the entire load of each VC/NVA unit is expanded every 30 days the average resupply requirement would be about 23\* tons per day.

For all NVA units and the 30% of the VC main force units which are equipped with the 7.62mm family of weapons, the supply requirement from non-SVN sources would be about 10 tons per day.

The resupply requirement for remaining VC main forces and VC Local Forces would average 13 tons per day.

Resupply requirements computed by NIE 14.3 methodology (all units consume 1/3 their basic load every 30 days) would result in a total daily requirement for Class V of about 8 tons, with about 3 tons of this coming from external sources.

\* All figures rounded off.

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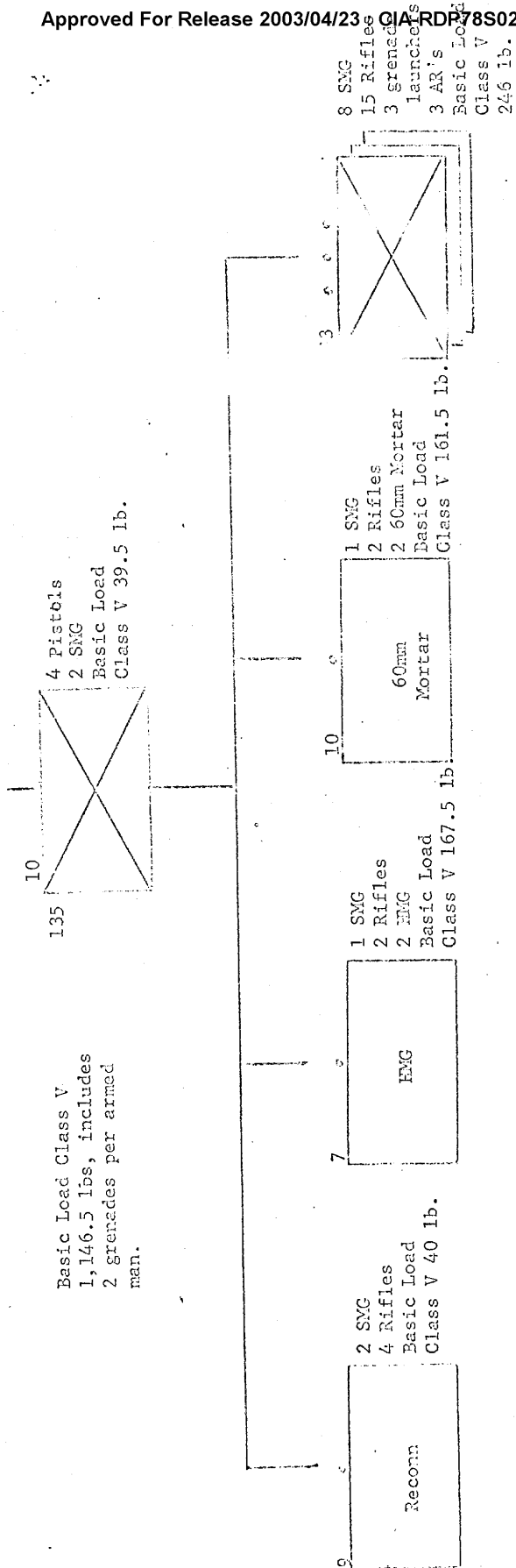
TABLE 1

BASIC LOAD AND WEIGHT OF AMMUNITION AND COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT

<u>Weapon</u>	<u>Basic Load Rounds</u>	<u>Weight Per Round</u>
SMG	180	0.3 oz
Pistol	35	0.3 oz
LMG	650	0.6 oz
Rifle	110	0.6 oz
AR/Assault	300	0.6 oz
MMG	1,800 (7.6mm)	0.6 oz
MMG	1,800 (12.7mm)	4.5 oz
Mortar	20 (60mm)	3.0 lb
Mortar	20 (82mm)	7.6 lb
Mortar	20 (120mm)	36.0 lb
Rocket Launcher	8	4.0 lb
Recoilless Rifle	8 (57mm)	12.0 lb
Recoilless Rifle	8 (75mm)	25.0 lb
Grenades	2 per man	1.5 lb
15w Radios		35.0 lb
2w Radios		20.0 lb
6 PRC 10		15.0 lb
Telephone		5.0 lb
Switchboard		20.0 lb
Commo Wire per km		42.0 lb

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TOTAL COMPANY WEAPONS

4 Pistols  
30 SMG  
53 Rifles  
9 AR's  
2 60mm Mortar  
2 HMG  
9 Grenade Launcher

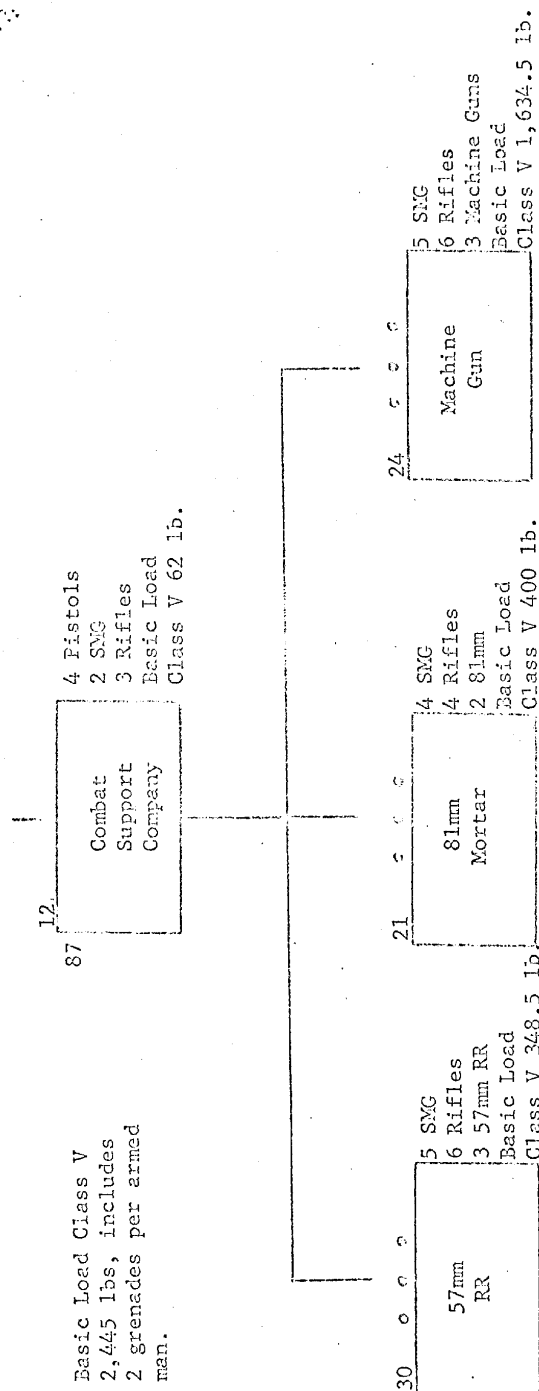
FIGURE 1 Type NVA Infantry Co.  
Weapon and Basic Load

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COMBAT SUPPORT COMPANY

INFANTRY BATTALION



TOTAL COMPANY WEAPONS

4 Pistols  
16 SMG  
19 Rifles  
3 57mm RR  
2 81mm Mortar  
3 Machine Guns

FIGURE 2 Type NVA Combat Support  
Company Weapons and Basic  
Load

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INFANTRY BATTALION  
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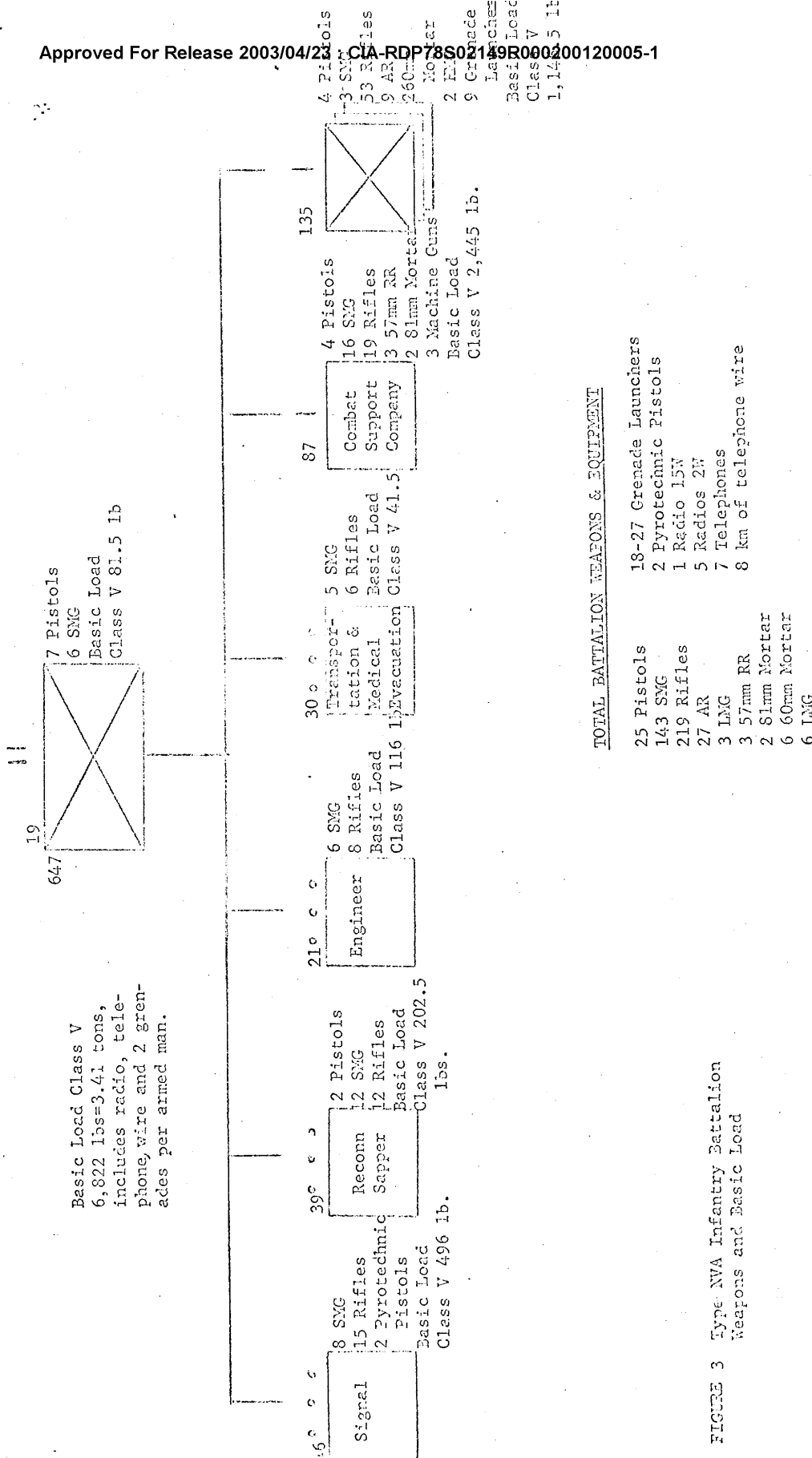


FIGURE 3 Type NVA Infantry Battalion  
Weapons and Basic Load

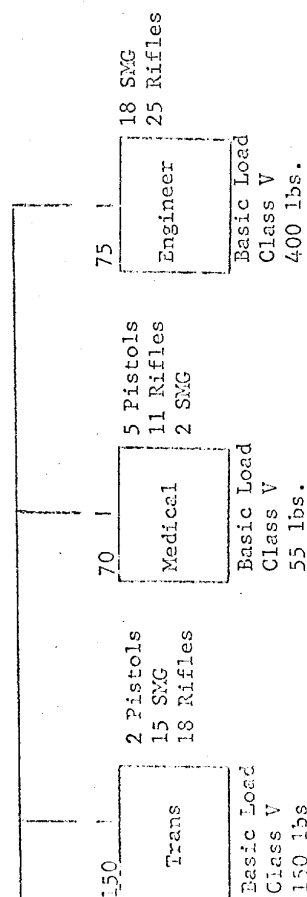
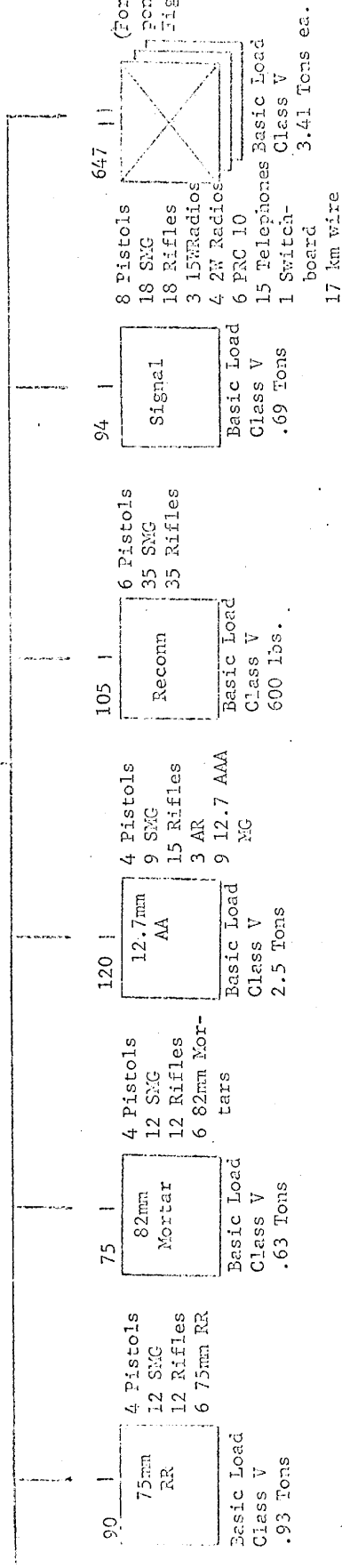
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REGIMENT

2710  
30  
10 Pistols  
10 SMG  
Basic Load  
Class V 30 lbs.

Total Regimental Basic Load for Class V Supplies 15.6 Tons, includes Radios, telephone, wire, and 2 grenades per armed man.



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DIVISION

10570  
Basic Load Class V  
for Division=67.11 Tons,  
includes radios, tele-  
phones, wire and 2 Gren-  
ades per armed man.

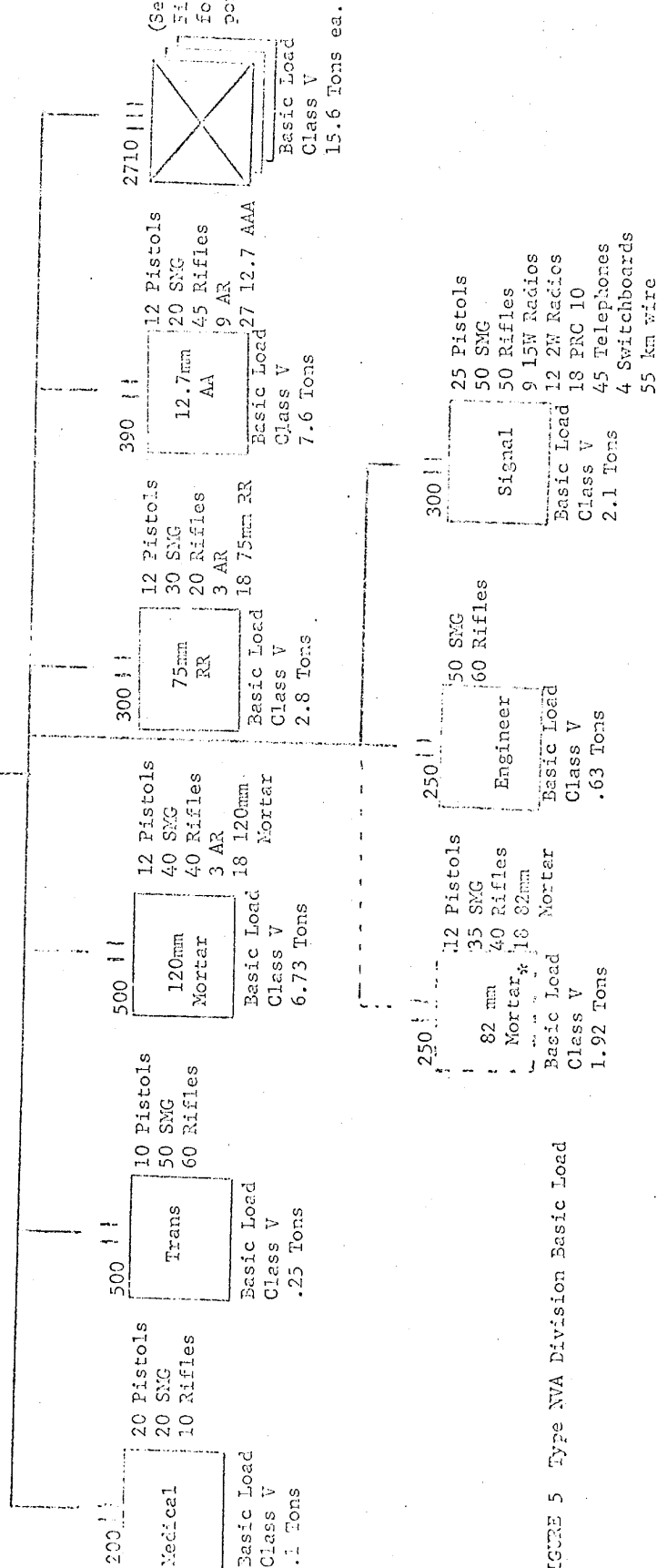


FIGURE 5 Type NVA Division Basic Load

\* 82mm Mortar Bn replace the 120mm mortar bn in VC divisions.

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

(Figures on upper line are for number of weapons)  
(Figures on lower line is for ammo)

TABLE 2

## SQUAD SIZE UNITS

Source	Unit	Strength	AR or Assault Rifle	SG	Rifle	Recoilless Rifle	Carbine	Pistol	Mortar	MMG	LMG	Grenade
6075094866 Bul 356 Doc	A7			2	4							
				678	970							
6075094866 Bul 356 Doc	A8		1	1	4	1						
			480		545	4						
6075094866 Bul 356 Doc	A9		1	1	4		2					
				95	550		180					
6075095466 Bul 356 Doc			4		3							
			500		102							
6075049366 VCC (3 sqds)		10	3		6							40
6075049366 VCC (4 sqds)		7	2	1								14
6075114466 Doc		6		1	5							
				50	213							
6075091266 VCC (27 sqds)			3		4							
			1100		600							
6075136466 VCC	1 Sq		1	1	3							26
			500	200	320							
6075136466 VCC	2 Sq		1	2	1	1						26
			500	400	100	10						
6075008766 Bul 89 Doc	1 Sq 1 Plat	8	5	1	2							
6075008766 Bul 89 Doc	1 Sq 1 Plat	7	4	1	2							
6075008766 Bul 89 Doc	3 Sq 1 Plat	7	4	1	2							
6075008766 Bul 89 Doc	4 Sq 2 Plat	7	5	1	1							
6075008766 Bul 89 Doc	5 Sq 2 Plat	6	3	1	2							
6075008766 Bul 89 Doc	6 Sq 2 Plat	6	2	1	3							
6075008766 Bul 89 Doc	7 Sq 3 Plat	6	4	1	1							
6075008766 Bul 89 Doc	9 Sq 3 Plat	6	4	1	1							
6075024066 VCC	1 Sq	8	1	1	3							8
6075024066 VCC	2 Sq	7		1	2		1					7
6075024066 VCC	3 Sq	10	1	1	1		1					12
6075024066 VCC	4 Sq	10	1	1	1		1					10
6075024066 VCC	5 Sq	9	1	1	1		1					9

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TABLE 2

(CONTINUED)

Source	Unit	Strength	AR or Assault Rifle	SG	Rifle	Recoilless Rifle	Carbine	Pistol	Mortar	ENG	ING	Grenade
6075024066 VCC	6 Sq	17		1	1							9
6075040366 Bul 190 Doc	1 Sq	11	1	4	5							
6075094766 Bul 349 Doc			1 80	3 467	3 440	1 3	1 130					
6075047866 Bul 221 Doc			3	4		1						
6075087766 Doc				2 260	5 259		2 125					
6075080466 VC Returnee	Weapons Sq			1 150						3 2400		20
6075080466 VC Returnee	B40 Sq			1 150		3 9						14
6075152166 VCC	Combat Support	7		1							3	14
6075152166 VCC	Combat Support	7		1	3	3						14
6075152166 VCC	Combat Support	7		1	1						3	14
6075152166 VCC	Combat Support	7		1	1	3						14
6075152166 VCC	Combat Support	7		1							3	14
6075152165 VCC	Combat Support	7		1	3	3						14
6075152166 VCC	Recon Sq	10		8	4							24
IR5075075666 VCC			1 500	3 360	4 400	1 3						26
6075176566 Bul 533 Doc		8		4 786	4 400							
6075172866 VCC F6				3	7		2					
6075161966 Bul 512 Doc	Weapons Sq								2 30			62
6075161966 Bul 512 Doc	Weapons Sq					3 18						14
6075161566 Bul 502 Doc	60 mm Mortar	13							2 78			24
6075161566 Bul 502 Doc (2 ea)	RR Sq	12		1	2 151	1 6						3
SIG Report 317/65 (6 ea)		9	1 600	3 450	4 400							28

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TABLE 2

(CONTINUED)

Source	Unit	Strength	AR or Assault Rifle	SMG	Rifle	Recoilless Rifle	Carbine	Pistol	Mortar	HMG	LMG	Grenade
SIC Report 317/65 (3 ea)		8	1 600	3 450	2 200							
SIC Report 317/65 (3 ea)	Recon Sq		8 1200									16
6075094666 Bul 348 Doc (3 ea)	Machine Gun	7			1						1 1200	
6075094666 Bul 348 Doc (3 ea)	RR Sq	8			1 100		1 12					
6075094666 Bul 348 Doc (3 ea)	Mortar	11		1 50	1 120				1			
6075094666 Bul 348 Doc (3 ea)	Mortar	9			1 120				1 5			
60750912 VCC	HMG		1 300		2 300					2 1500		12
60750912 VCC	60 mm Mortar		1 300		2 300				3 60			
6075136466 VCC	60 mm Mortar	13			2 200	4 800			2 60			
6075136466 VCC	LMG	5			1 100	1 200					1 500	

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TABLE 3  
PLATOON SIZE UNIT

Source	Unit	Strength	AR or Assault Rifle	SG	Rifle	Recoilless Rifle	Carbine	Pistol	Mortar	MG	LMG	Grenade
6075008766 Bul 89 Doc	1 Plat	25	13	5	6							
6075008766 Bul 89 Doc	2 Plat	22	10	5	6							
6075008766 Bul 89 Doc	3 Plat	16	8	4	2							
6075009066 Doc	VC		46 5200	9 2700			1	12				
6075041766 VCC	1 Plat	31	15 750	12 3000	3 200		3 200					62
6075041766 VCC	2 Plat	32	15 750	12 3000	3 200		3 200					62
6075041766 VCC	3 Plat	15		2			10		2			
6075049266 VCC			4	7	16		1					
6075024066 VCC	VC 1 Plat	30	2	3	5		5					30
6075024066 VCC	VC 2 Plat	30	2	3	3		2					30
6075024066 VCC	VC 3 Plat	17	1	1	2		3					17
6075057666 Bul 246 Doc	B2 Unit	16	2	10	2							52
6075081066 VC Ret.	1 Plat	30	3	9	30							
6075081066 VC Ret	2 Plat	30		9	30				4			4
6075089866 VCC (3 ea)	1st Co		3 900	9 900	12 900		1					
6075121866 VCC	1 Plat 2 Plat 3 Plat		15 1500	6 900	3							54
6075023066 Bul 139 Doc		26	3	3	17		1					
6075094866 Doc			3	4	13	1	1					76
6075097666		13		5 740	7 1030							20
6075049366 VCC (3 ea)	3 Plat of 3rd Co	34	3	12	18	1						136
6075049366 VCC (4 ea)	1 Plat		6 1200	4 400					4 36			76

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TABLE 3  
(CONTINUED)

Source	Unit	Strength	AR or Assault Rifle	S&W Rifle	Recoilless Rifle	Carbine	Pistol	Mortar	ENG	LMG	Grenade
6075049366 VCC (4 ea)	2 Plat		6 1200	4 400	4 12						72
6075049366 VCC (4 ea)	3 Plat		6 1200	4 400						4 600	56
6075024166 (3 ea)			3 1500	6 1200	9 540						56 56
6075024166	Combat Support			2 400	2 20	1 120		2 20		1 500	
6075091266 VCC (3 ea)			3 1500	3 2700	12 2700	1 4					52
6075083566 Doc	1 Plat	14		6	6					2	
6075083566 Doc	2 Plat	16		7	6	1				2	
6075083566 Doc	3 Plat	15		6	4	1				2	
6075136465 VCC				4 800	8 820	1 4	1 100			2 1000	60
6075136465 VCC	Wpns Plat			5 1000	4 400	2 16	1	2 60		1 500	60
SIC Report 23/65		70	2 500	6 12000	20 2000		3 100	3 60			
6075136266 VCC	1 Plat	59		4	42		1		3		114
6075136266 VCC				4	44		1		3		118
6075081766 VCC	1 Plat	17	2 180	10 1350		3	2				34
6075081766 VCC	2 Plat			6 810	1 100	5	1				34
6075081166 VC Returnee			2	8	12	1					
6075080466 VC Returnee	1 Plat 2 Plat 3 Plat	30 30 30	3	14	12	3					3
6075080466 VC Returnee	82mm	32		5				3 (82)			80
6075080466 VC Returnee	75 DKZ Plat	34		5	3(75) (DKZ)						80
6075080466 VC Returnee	IMG Plat	32		5						3	80
IR6075080466 VC Returnee F-6	1 Plat 2 Plat			8	18					3	
6075152166 VC (9ea)		27	2	11	12						90
6075172866 VCC F6		31	3	3	23	1					10

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TABLE 3

(CONTINUED)

Source	Unit	Strength	AR or Assault Rifle	SNR	Rifle	Recoilless Rifle	Carbine	Pistol	Mortar	HMG	LMG	Grenade
6075161966 Bul 512 Doc			3	6	15							62
			(2900 rounds)									
6075159166 Bul 503 Doc		22	3	3	13							
			1176	300	655							
SIC Report 333/65		59	3	11	22			3				100
SIC Report 317/65	1 Plat	30	3	12	12							102
	3 Plat		1800	1800	1200							
SIC Report 317/65	2 Plat	27	3	12	9							90
			1800	1800	900							
SIC Report 317/65	Mortar Plat		4 600	5 500					2 180			
SIC Report 317/65	LMG Plat		4 600	5 500					2 2400			
SIC Report 317/65	DKZ Plat		4 600	5 500		2						
6075094666 Bul 348 Doc	Machine Gun	22		1	3							3 3541
6075094666 Bul 348 Doc	RR	24			3 320	3 34						
6075094666 Bul 348 Doc	Mortar	21		1 50	2 240				2 5			
6075143066	Machine Gun	21		3	2 270						2 2775	18

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TABLE 4  
COMPANY SIZE UNIT

Source	Unit	Strength	AR or Assault Rifle	SVG	Rifle	Recoilless Rifle	Carbine	Pistol	Mortar	ENG	ENG	Grenade
6075024066 VCC	VC	80	5 500	7 120	15 35		15 30	2 20				
6075090466 VCC			37	30			9		2			
6075090666 VCC	1 Co	70	2	4	18	2					4	
6075094566 Bul 347 Doc	4th Co 445 Bn			2 100	8 800	3 50	6 300	1 18	2 28		3 3000	
6075089866 VCC	1 Co		9 2700	18 2700	36 2700							
6075080766 VCC (3 ea)	1 Co 2 Co		9 5400	35 7000	38 7600	3 15		4		3 9000		
6075090066 VCC			8	10	20		6					
6075087466 Bul 323 Doc		80	17	10	10		10		1			45
6075087466 Bul 323 Doc		103	19	26	7		11	3			1	111
6075121866 VCC	2 Co 2 Co	112 112	60 6000	12 3600	12			2				336
6075119066 Bul 441 Doc			18 6043	4 659	15 862		8 420		2 25			152
6075083566 Bul 311 Doc	1 Co	79		25	23	3		4			7	
6075083566 Bul 311 Doc	2 Co	33		13	5	2		2	1		3	
6075083566 Bul 311 Doc	3 Co		2	16	5	1		3	1		1	
6075083566 Bul 311 Doc	4 Co	39		9	10	1	1	2	1			
6075083666 Bul 312 Doc	1 Co			12	13	3	1	3	1		8	
6075083666 Bul 312 Doc	2 Co			18	19	3		4	2		8	
6075083666 Bul 312 Doc	3 Co			15	5	2	1	2			8	
6075083666 Bul 312 Doc	4 Co			6	12		1	3	2		3	
6075054566 Doc				55 3363	15 3363		21 910	3 150				
6075136466 Bul 442 Doc				22 4240	40 4000	2 8	7 840	3 360	2 60		7 3500	400
6075119166 Bul 442 Doc	Co 401		20	3	10		10	1	2	2	7	

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TABLE 4  
(CONTINUED)

Source	Unit	Strength	AR or Assault Rifle	SIG	Rifle	Recoilless Rifle	Carbine	Pistol	Mortar	MG	AT	Grenade
6075119166 Bu1 442 Doc	Co 402		9	19	9		9	3	2	2	4	
6075119166 Bu1 442 Doc	Co 403			2	23		8	1	2	2	9	
6075090266 VC Returnee			9	30	48	3				2		
6075094466 Bu1 346 Doc			6		26			6			6	
6075036366 VCC C-3	Signal Co		27		21			9				
6075032666 VCC C-3	16th Signal			8	8							
6075049366 VCC	3rd Co	100	9	39	55	2		4		3		400
6075049366 VCC	4th Co		18		12	4		4	4		4	44
6075024166 VCC	1 Co 2 Co		9 1800	6 900	27 1620	2 10	2 120		2 10		1 500	220
6075059266 Doc (3ea)			10 1000					3 72			6 4800	
6075091266 VCC (3ea)		107	30 900	10 4500	38 5700	3 12		4	3 60	2 1500		
6075091266 VCC (3ea)	Combat Sup	90	18					4	6 60		3 3000	
6075031766 VCC			9	27	27	9		2		3		120
STC Report 27/65	Co 206		2	10	30		50	5				
6075031466	14th Cmbt Sup			16	18			4	9 (81) (82) 141			2
6075031566			9	27	36	9				3		
6075081166 VC Returnee	1 Co	90	9	27	30	9				2		
6075081166 VC Returnee	2 Co	90	9	27	30	9				2		
6075080466 VC Returnee	1 Co 2 Co		9	47	36	3				3		330
6075080466 VC Returnee	Wpns	110		15		3		4	3		3	250
6075152166 VCC (3ea)		110	9	36	41	3		4				296
MACJ 21 Bu1 310 Doc	Co 71			19 3800	47 3900	3 30		5 120	2 38		9 3100	270

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TABLE 4

(CONTINUED)

Source	Unit	Strength	AR or Assault Rifle	SNG	Rifle	Recoilless Rifle	Carbine	Pistol	Mortar	ENG	LC	Grenade
MACJ 21	Co 72			19	43	3		3	2		8	194
Bul 310 Doc				3850	3698	30		70	38		3200	
MACJ 21	Co 73			21	45	3		3	2		9	246
Bul 310 Doc				12600	12660	30		75	38			
6075175966			8	5	35		6	4	1		3	
Bul 478 Doc					280		220				120	
6075175966				13	24	2	8	5	6		3	168
Bul 527 Doc				3706	3740	50	410	190	39		2819	
6075177666	Combat					4	30	4	2		4	88
Bul 535 Doc	Support						860	120	26		2800	
6075156755				50	13		9	2			6	25
Bul 475 Doc				460	344		230	80			2036	
6075047166	Heavy					2		4	8			
VCC	Wpne								(81mm)			
SIC Report 317/65		110	9	27	27			4	2			285
(3ea)			5400	3050	2700				60			
SIC Report 317/65	Combat	70		12	15	2			2		2	130
	Support			1800	1500				120		2400	
6075094666	Combat			2	8	3			2		3	
Bul 348 Doc	Support					24					3541	
6075081066	Combat	150	9	27	1	2			10		2	
VC Returnee	Support											
6075036366	Sig		27	21				9				
VCC C-3	Co											

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